Aug. 5 2013

To whom it My concern

RECEIVED
CITY OF REDMOND
AUG 0 5 2013

OFFICE OF THE HEARING EXAMINER

Ex A-1, LAND-2013-01289

We are concerned that Share claims no increase in crime. We're concerned, especially because independent studies and crime statistics in other cities show that crime does rise in locations close to homeless shelters. Increases in car break-ins were reported in Columbia, South Carolina, while a study in Orlando, Florida documented increases in ordinance violations and larcenies (Polczynski, 2006). Almost 25% of the 1,073 people surveyed in shelters and transitional facilities in Columbia, South Carolina had been arrested within the last 12 months (Columbia Free Times, June 23, 2010). That study also reported that one of every 23 homeless people had been arrested for a violent crime in the past 12 months. The list goes on and on.

Common sense tells you that if you put 100 people that have a high rate of issues into a dense encampment with conditions worse than a third world refugee camp there will be problems. (See attaché report from National coalition for the Homeless)

It may be true that the overall crime rate for the city goes down because the cities increase police patrol, but in the local cities that specifically track crime related to tent city, it shows an increase as well as a huge cost. Some of the police that Share has quoted went on to explain that they like Tent City because they now knew where to look because tent city collected people that cause issues into one location and it made it easier for the police to handle. So the overall crime rate will stay the same in the city, but goes up in the immediate neighborhood.

Crime rate does go up. See attached.

It does impact. She how it as effected past tent city neighbors. See attached

What do we know about the group that oversees tent city are they reliable? There has been no oversight up till now. Fence no put up site in wrong location and people trespassing (See attached)

Will provide photo of violations and trespassing.

Should not be allowed because of the impact on the neighborhood but also for the following.

Almost all cities require a conditional use permit for a church in a residential neighborhood. Most also will not allow churches to be within 400 to 600 feet of one another. That is because they are not a normal use and they bring a large amount of people into a low density neighborhood and create a negative impact. Redmond has chosen to allow a church without a conditional use permit, but to limit that to a building that has less than 250 seats (or enough sq. ft. to allow for that amount of seats)to minimize the impact. When you add the 100 people that are in tent city to the allowed seats in the existing institution, it is well over the 250 threshold. They have added additional use to the building that pushes it well over the 250 seat exemption. These new people are not there for a few hours each week. With church attendance it will be only once or twice a week for a few hours that a member of the church is there and thus a limited impact to the neighborhood, therefore no need for a conditional use review. With each resident of tent city, many of them are there all day and are not inside any building. This clearly has a much greater

impact than one church member. When you allowed the occupancy of this site to be pushed over the 250 level as well as modified the use it should have triggered the need of a conditional use permit. A hundred unit apartment would have far less negative impact on a neighborhood then what you are allowing.

The other clear- cut violation is the plans that were submitted. They did not clearly or accurately show the area of the encampment. They show the site at about 5% of its true size.

Both on the plat of Cryder and Chablis the Technical Committee was clear that both 116 and the especially the Red Wood Rd were unsafe for walking. On Chablis they required all access be blocked to Red Wood Rd and even signage posted to prevent people from entering and walking on it. The City would not allow even one new house to be occupied without a safe walking path to be provided. So how can a 100 people be allowed to move in and walk up and down both of these roads? It is unsafe for both them and the people driving. To add to this there is a major construction project going on on WRR. The City has concluded that it is a unsafe walking zone and yet the allow 100 people who get around by walking move in. Based on this alone the tent city should not be allowed.

THREE
The only witness we would call are two adjacent neighbors to the Redmond site.

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John Baumann